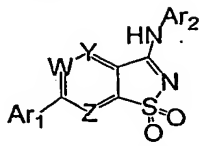
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof, wherein:

W, Y and Z are independently N or CR_1;

R_1 is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, cyano, amino, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy and haloC_1-C_6alkoxy;

Ar_1 and Ar_2 are independently selected from 5- to 10-membered aromatic carbocycles and heterocycles, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, cyano, nitro and groups of the formula LR_a;

L is independently selected at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, O-C(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, C(=O)$N(R_x)$-, $N(R_x)$C(=O), $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl; and

R_a is independently selected at each occurrence from:

(i) hydrogen; and

(ii) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, haloC_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, mono- and di-(C_1-C_8alkyl)amino and (3- to 10-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 6 substituents independently selected from (a) hydroxy, halogen, amino, aminocarbonyl, cyano, nitro, oxo and COOH; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_1-C_8alkenyl, C_1-C_8alkynyl, C_1-C_8alkoxy, C_1-C_8alkylthio, C_1-C_8alkyl ether, C_1-C_8alkanoyl, C_1-C_8alkanone, C_1-C_8alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_8alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxyC_1-C_8alkyl, haloC_1-C_8alkyl, cyanoC_1-C_8alkyl, phenylC_0-C_8alkyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminoC_0-C_8alkyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonamido and (5- to 7-membered heterocycle)C_0-C_8alkyl.

2. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein Ar_2 is phenyl, pyridyl or pyrimidinyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, cyano, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl and (C_1-C_6alkylsulfonamido).

3. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 2, wherein Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

4. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 3, wherein Ar_2 has one substituent located at the ring position *para* to the point of attachment.

5. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein Ar_1 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, cyano, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, haloC_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, haloC_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)sulfonamido.

6. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 5, wherein Ar_1 is 2-pyridyl, substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl.

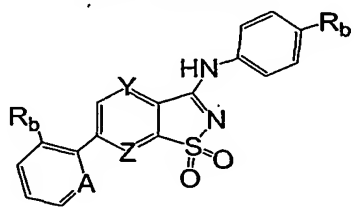
7. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 5, wherein Ar_1 is 3-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 3-chloro-pyridin-2-yl, or 3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl.

8. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein W is CH; and Y and Z are independently N or CH.

9. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein W, Y and Z are each CH.

10. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein Ar_1 is phenyl or 2-pyridyl, substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl and haloC_1-C_4alkyl; and Ar_2 is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, cyano, C_1-C_4alkyl, haloC_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6alkylsulfonyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)sulfonamido.

11. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound has the formula:



wherein A is N or CH, and each R_b is independently halogen, cyano, nitro or LR_a.

12. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-[1,1-dioxo-6-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-1H-1?^{6}-benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl]-amine;

[1,1-dioxo-6-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-1H-1?^{6}-benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl]-(4-isopropyl-phenyl)-amine;

[1,1-dioxo-6-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-1H-1?^{6}-benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl]-[4-(1,2,2,2-tetrafluoro-1-trifluoromethyl-ethyl)-phenyl]-amine;

[1,1-dioxo-6-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-1H-1?^{6}-benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl]-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-amine; and

[1,1-dioxo-6-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)1H-?^{6}-benzo[d]isothiazo-3-yl]-(4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-amine.

13. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound exhibits no detectable agonist activity an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor agonism.

14. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound has an IC_{50} value of 1 micromolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

15. A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound has an IC_{50} value of 100 nanomolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

16. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising at least one compound or pharmaceutically acceptable pharmaceutically acceptable form thereof according to claim 1 in combination with a physiologically acceptable carrier or excipient.

17. A method for reducing calcium conductance of a cellular capsaicin receptor, comprising contacting a cell expressing a capsaicin receptor with at least one compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby reducing calcium conductance of the capsaicin receptor.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the cell is contacted *in vivo* in an animal.

19. A method according to claim 18, wherein the cell is a neuronal cell.

20. A method according to claim 18, wherein the cell is a urothelial cell.

21. A method according to claim 18, wherein during contact the compound is present within a body fluid of the animal.

22. A method according to claim 18, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the animal at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the animal at a concentration of 500 nanomolar or less.

24. A method according to claim 23, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the animal at a concentration of 100 nanomolar or less.

25. A method according to claim 28, wherein the animal is a human.

26. A method according to claim 2, wherein the compound is administered orally.

27. A method for inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to a capsaicin receptor *in vitro*, the method comprising contacting capsaicin receptor with at least one compound or form thereof according to claim 1, under conditions and in an amount sufficient to detectably inhibit vanilloid ligand binding to capsaicin receptor.

28. A method for inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to capsaicin receptor in a patient, comprising contacting cells expressing capsaicin receptor with at least one compound or form thereof according to claim 1, in an amount sufficient to detectably inhibit vanilloid ligand binding to cells expressing a cloned capsaicin receptor *in vitro*, and thereby inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to the capsaicin receptor in the patient.

29. A method according to claim 28, wherein the patient is a human.

30. A method according to claim 28, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

31. A method for treating a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation in a patient, comprising administering to the patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of at least one compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby alleviating the condition in the patient.

32. A method according to claim 31, wherein the patient is suffering from (i) exposure to capsaicin, (ii) burn or irritation due to exposure to heat, (iii) burns or irritation due to exposure to light, (iv) burn, bronchoconstriction or irritation due to exposure to tear gas, air pollutants or pepper spray, or (v) burn or irritation due to exposure to acid.

33. A method according to claim 31, wherein the condition is asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

34. A method for treating pain in a patient, comprising administering to a patient suffering from pain a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of at least one compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby alleviating pain in the patient.

35. A method according to claim 34, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

36. A method according to claim 35, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 500 nanomolar or less.

37. A method according to claim 36, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 100 nanomolar or less.

38. A method according to claim 34, wherein the patient is suffering from neuropathic pain.

39. A method according to claim 34, wherein the pain is associated with a condition selected from: postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, toothache, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, neuritis, neuronitis, neuralgia, AIDS-related neuropathy, MS-related neuropathy, spinal cord injury-related pain, surgery-related pain, musculoskeletal pain, back pain, headache, migraine, angina, labor, hemorrhoids, dyspepsia, Charcot's pains, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, venom exposure, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and trauma.

40. A method according to claim 34, wherein the patient is a human.

41. A method for treating itch in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby alleviating itch in the patient.

42. A method for treating cough or hiccup in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby alleviating cough or hiccup in the patient.

43. A method for treating urinary incontinence or overactive bladder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby alleviating urinary incontinence or overactive bladder in the patient.

44. A method promoting weight loss in an obese patient, comprising administering to a patient a capsaicin receptor modulatory amount of a compound or form thereof according to claim 1, and thereby promoting weight loss in the patient.

45. A compound or form thereof according to claim 1, wherein the compound or form thereof is radiolabeled.

46. A method for determining the presence or absence of capsaicin receptor in a sample, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a sample with a compound or form thereof according to claim 1, under conditions that permit binding of the compound to capsaicin receptor; and

(b) detecting a level of the compound bound to capsaicin receptor, and therefrom determining the presence or absence of capsaicin receptor in the sample.

47. A method according to claim 46, wherein the compound is a radiolabeled compound according to claim 45, and wherein the step of detection comprises the steps of:

(i) separating unbound compound from bound compound; and

(ii) detecting the presence or absence of bound compound in the sample.

48. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat pain.

49. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat cough or hiccup.

50. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:
(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 in a container; and
(b) instructions for using the composition to treat obesity.

51. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:
(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 in a container; and
(b) instructions for using the composition to treat urinary incontinence or overactive bladder.

52. The use of a compound or form thereof according to any one of claims 1-15 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation.

53. A use according to claim 52, wherein the condition is pain, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cough, hiccup, obesity, urinary incontinence, overactive bladder, exposure to capsaicin, burn or irritation due to exposure to heat, burn or irritation due to exposure to light, burn, bronchoconstriction or irritation due to exposure to tear gas, air pollutants or pepper spray, or burn or irritation due to exposure to acid.